GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3017
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2002
MPEDA S PLAN TO ENCOURAGE MARINE PRODUCTS
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether MPEDA has any plans to encourage Indian Marine Products Industry to focus on value added exports;

(b) if so, the concrete steps taken by MPEDA to encourage Indian marine foods exporters to change over to such exports;

(c) whether any financial subsidies are being given; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the exporters based on the East Coast have received such encouragement?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d) : In order to encourage marine products industry to focus on value-added exports and to change over to such exports, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has been taking several steps, which include schemes for extending financial assistance to the seafood processing industry; steps to upgrade processing facilities to meet international standards of hygiene and quality; imparting training to aquaculture farmers to adopt sound management practices to prevent outbreak of diseases; assistance to produce value-added products for export; participation by MPEDA in international fairs, conducting overseas market surveys; etc.

For production of value-added products financial assistance is extended at the rate of 25% of the cost of machinery and equipment subject to maximum of Rs. 15 lakh per unit. During the year 2001-02, the financial assistance amounting to Rs. 57.25 lakh was given to the seafood processors in East Coast region.